the House by surprise at any time. We[1] do not accept this.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: It is not fair that you take the House by surprise.. The House also will not function at the convenience of each and even' Member.

DR. BTPLAB DASGUPTA: Take the sense of tlie House, Madam.

SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: Please take th? sense of the House.

श्री ईश दत्त यादव : मेरा इससे संबंधित नहीं है। मैं इस विषय में नहीं बोल रहा हूं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या हमारा भाषण अगली तारीख तक जारी रहेगा ?

उपसभाध्यक्ष (कुमारी सरोज खापर्डे) : अभी आपने अपना भाषण दे दिया। पूरा नहीं किया होगा तो अगले सत्र में बोलियेगा लेकिन वाणिज्य मंत्री जी को अपना बयान करने की अनुमति प्रदान कर दीजिए।

DR. B1PLAB DASGUPTA: Please take the sense of the House.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Please sit down. This is 'not fair. Now Mr. Pranab Mukherjee.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Government's decision to ret'fy rgyeo ment estah'Miiny Worift IWaflfe Organisation

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE). Madam, hon. Members wiH recall th House has discussed the Uruguay Roucd results on a number cf occasions.

SHRI MD. SALEM (West Bengal): there is no quorum. It cannot be done. *Interruptions).* How can you do tto's" *(Interruptions),* Is this the way the Government should function?

राज्य सभा की अपनी गरिमा है। (व्यवधान) सदन की गरिमा का सवाल है (व्यवधान)

[illegible]

श्री कृष्ण लाल शर्मा (हिमाचल प्रदेश) : गवर्नमेंट का यह एटीट्यूड ठीक नहीं है। (व्यवधान)

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: While there have been differing perceptions on one or the other aspects of the Uruguay Round results, Government is of the view that India's continued participation in the multilateral trading system will be in our national interest. *(Interruptions).*

Government have carefully examined the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organisation and found that:

— reductions in traiffs will contribute to increased trade flows;

— the Agreement on Texti'es, though it disappoints us by not mandating early integration, nevertheless represents a definite, tirne-bound and legally enforceable commitment to integrate this sector into the multilateral rules governing international trade;

_ India has not u-deratkec *my* re duction cammitsments in any area of support to agriculture and our development policies remain un affected;

— there is no obligation on us to patent seeds and plant varieties and a sr' tab pro- ;; of th; *fn'tzat* and •ill be in our in'.crest;

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (West : Madarn, the Bouse does not have quorum. (Interruptions).

(At this stage some hon. Members left the Chamber.)

†[] Transliteration ia Arabic Script

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE; — our patent regime will indeed have to undergo a change, but even here we have a 10-year transition period for introducing a full products patent-regime;

— the rules governing trade policy instruments like anti-dumping and grey areas measures such as volun tary export restraints have been improved;

— multilateral dispute settlement pro visions have been made more effective.

AI| countries which had participated in the negotiations had authenticated the results of the Uruguay Round at Marrakech by signing Ihe Final Act. Additionally 104 countries had also signed the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organisation, 33 of them done so definitely.

SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE (Gujarat): Madarn, I am on a Coin; of order.

SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: There i-, no quorum in the House.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE; Since then 10 other countries are reported to have completed thei- ratification procedures. Major tn ding nations, such as USA and Japan, have also completed their ratification formalities in December. 1994. It has also been decided Jn the Preparatory Committee which met on 8.12,1994 'n Geneva that the World Trade Organisation Agreement will be brought into effect from 1.1. 1995.

With its continuously increasing membership, the GATT system is rapidly approaching global membership.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Madam, you cannot run the Hous tike this, when T am calling for quorum. There is no quorum in the House. It is an illegal House. There is no quorum. *(Inter. >ns)*

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: There-are discernible *Mils* iii the pattern of world trade and the WTO wiH have to reflect these emerging realities in its functioning. India has been a member of tte multilateral system from its ver> inception and intends to continue its participation to the mutual benefit of all.

Taking all relevant factors into account, Government have decided to ratify the WHO Agreement. The neeessary instrument wiH be deposited with tbe concerned authorities shortly.

SHRI ISH DUT YADAV (Uttar Pradesh); Clarifications will be on Monday.

SHRJ PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Why on Monday? Why have they 'eft'.'

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Clarifications will be sought on Monday as announced earlier .

SHRI SURESH PACHOURI (Madhya Pradesh): Let the clarifications be had today.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Ma dam, they have not given any request. j Th<; Members ar$_{c}$ not here. Why ■ uld there be clarifications?

SHRI ISH DUT YADAV; Let the House be adjourned now.

SHRI S. V1DUTHALAI V1RUMBI j (Tami) Nadu). Will there be no Spe-I cinl Mentions?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SA-ROJ KHAPARDE): Hon. Members. 1 would like to ask whether we should continue the House for Special Mentions?

SHRl S. VIDUTHALA1 VIRUMBI: Yes, Madam. It is very important.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE); Are you sure? Shall j wc so ahead?

SHRI S. VIDUTHALA1 VIRUMBI: Yes.

THE VICECHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Thank you.